



1D-00278

NAS MEMPHIS
Millington, Tennessee

**Environmental Baseline Survey
Fact Sheet**

April 1994

• **Introduction**

NAS Memphis is being realigned as part of the **Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1990 (BRAC)**. In accordance with President Clinton's initiative to transfer property quickly to the local community, a survey was conducted to determine the environmental condition of the base. The survey identified real property suitable for transfer to the local community as well as property which needs additional study/restoration action before it can be transferred.

• **The Environmental
Baseline Survey**

The **Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS)** is an intensive study of each parcel of property that is to be transferred from the Navy to the community. This comprehensive investigation includes a historical review (including environmental documents, chain-of-title documents, and aerial photographs), a visual survey of each site, physical inspections of all adjacent property and interviews with people having direct knowledge of past and present uses of the site. The survey documents the type and extent of any environmental contamination on the properties listed for transfer. Evaluation of each building and its associated property is based on a checklist of possible environmental concerns. Each parcel of land is then identified as being suitable or not suitable for transfer.

• **Purpose of the EBS**

The EBS is a tool for the **BRAC Cleanup Team (BCT)** to use in making decisions about the environmental status of real property at NAS Memphis. The BCT includes representatives from the Navy, the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation and the Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV.

One of the primary objectives of the BCT is to prepare Navy land for transfer as quickly as possible while protecting human health and the environment. The EBS allows the BCT to prioritize sites for cleanup and ensures the speedy transfer of land to the community. The EBS also identifies conditions which may persist after the transfer of the property.

- **Legislation**

The Community Environmental Response Facilitation Act (CERFA) was enacted in 1992 to amend part of earlier legislation that addresses the transfer of federally owned real estate, including military bases that are being closed as part of the BRAC program. CERFA requires that the Department of Defense (DOD) identify the environmental condition of all property at military installations within 18 months of being identified for closure. The intent of this legislation is to rapidly identify property that can be transferred to local communities for economic reuse or redevelopment, thereby putting the property to use for the community as quickly as possible. Property is considered suitable for transfer if it falls into one of first four categories listed below.

- **Property Categories**

Suitable for Transfer:

- 1 **White.** Uncontaminated. No storage, release (i.e. spill), disposal or migration (i.e., movement through soil or by water) of hazardous substances (i.e., chemicals or petroleum products), has occurred.
- 2 **Blue.** Storage only (no release, disposal or migration of hazardous substances has occurred).
- 3 **Light Green.** Storage, release, disposal and/or migration of these substances has occurred, but at concentrations not requiring removal or remediation action.
- 4 **Dark Green.** Storage, release, disposal and/or migration has occurred, and all remediation actions have been taken.

Not Suitable For Transfer

- 5 **Yellow.** Storage, release, disposal and/or migration has occurred, and remedial actions are underway.
- 6 **Red.** Storage, release, disposal and/or migration has occurred, but response actions have not yet been taken.
- 7 **Grey.** Not evaluated or requires further evaluation.

- **Questions?**

The EBS will be placed in the information repositories upon its completion. If you have questions about the EBS or other environmental restoration issues, contact the NAS Memphis Public Affairs Office at (901) 873-5761.

- **Repository Locations**

Public repositories of information pertaining to the environmental restoration of NAS Memphis are being set up at three locations:

- the Millington Public Library (4858 Navy Road, 872-1585);
- Millington City Hall (7930 Nelson, 872-2211); and
- the NAS Memphis Library (South 78 Building, 873-5683).